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Hispanic Heritage Month

Also: The Library's Chilean Collections

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JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: Chilean writer Gabriela Mistral (1889–1957), whose 1950 reading for the Library's Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape is her only extant recording. Mistral notebooks and letters are also part of the Library's collections. *Photo from Prints and Photographs Division*

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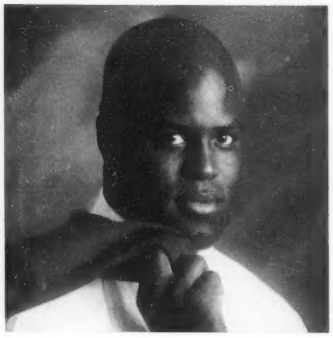

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
DIANN J. JOHNSON, PEGGY F. PIXLEY, SHERYLE O. SHEARS,
Printing Management Section
JOHN J. KOZAR, Publisher

'The Man Historians Hate':

Joseph Nathan Kane Donates Collection of 'First Facts'

The "fact man," Joseph Nathan Kane, 96, was at the Library Oct. 11 to mark his donation of a year's worth of early radio shows.

Mr. Kane gave a collection of 78 rpm records of his 1938–39 coast-to-coast radio show, "Famous First Facts." He also donated a vintage 1930s microphone.

Mr. Kane is author of the standard reference works *Famous First Facts, Facts About the States* and *Facts About the Presidents,* which are known to many a reference librarian.

For example, a question received by the Library's National Reference Service (NRS), "Who was the first president to fly?" was answered by NRS Chief Barbara R. Morland after she referred to *Facts About the Presidents.*

"On Oct. 11, 1910, Theodore Roosevelt flew in a biplane," she said. "Today is the 85th anniversary of that first," she told a Pickford Theater audience of about 40 people.

The ceremony marked the public availability of the collection, due to the completion, by the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division's (MBRS) magnetic recording library, of the transcription of the acetate records to archival reel-to-reel tape and the cataloging of references therein.

Gene DeAnna, MBRS recorded sound reference center reference librarian, said, "To have a full year of a radio show is indeed special. It's unusual because the holdings on early radio are spotty; a lot went out on the air that was not recorded. The only reason we have this is because Mr. Kane paid Mutual Broadcasting Co. to make these custom recordings for him."

The collection will join the American TV and Radio Archive, created by Congress in 1976 to collect, preserve and store TV and radio programs. At 500,000 and counting, it is one of the largest such collections in the world. It includes the NBC Radio Collection and the Armed Forces Radio and TV Service.

Yusef El-Amin

Joseph Nathan Kane and the microphone he donated to the Library: He said the Wright brothers were *not* first in flight.

During the ceremony, selections from some of Mr. Kane's shows that were broadcast in 1938 were played. "Good evening everyone," said the announcer. "There's always a first . . . Sixty-four years ago today the first Republican elephant cartoon was used. Sixty-two years ago today, the first cigarette machine was patented, and 28 years ago today the first commercial mail shipment was made."

A notebook of typed, mimeographed scripts that accompanies the recordings includes some of Mr. Kane's penciled corrections to the trio of facts regularly featured at the beginning of each program.

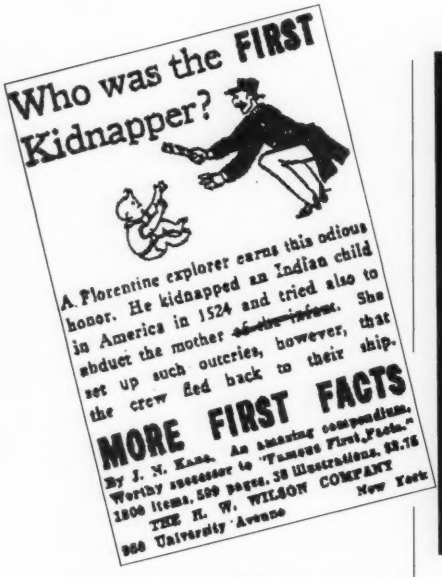
During the next part of the show, actors would read, unrehearsed, from scripts to reenact a famous first, such as the first American soldier to land in France in World War I or the first American man to eat 53 ears of corn in one sitting. The secret? No butter or salt, the actor said, only to be beaten out by someone who claimed to have eaten more. "Next time I won't eat the cob," he said.

One problem Kane ran into often was people who claimed to have predated his findings of famous firsts, he said. "At least 5 percent of any work I do goes in the garbage pail. Everybody else has something earlier." When he reported the invention of the first department store, 50 families wrote to him and described how their immigrant grandparents had sold variety goods in pushcarts before opening a store.

He told the Associated Press in a 1976 interview that he spent most of his time tracking down people who claimed to be firsts and doing research in libraries and museums.

Who Brought the
FIRST
Breach-of-
Promise
Suit?
Strangely enough, it was a clergyman—who brought suit against a woman. The case was tried in Virginia in 1623. The penalty for a third offense in those days was jail, a fine, or both.
MORE FIRST FACTS
By J. N. Kane. An amazing compendium. Worthy successor to "Famous First Facts." 1300 items, 399 pages, 38 illustrations, $2.75. The H. W. Wilson Co., 950 University Ave., New York.

For his habit of disproving what was thought to be common knowledge,


Who was the FIRST Kidnapper?
A Florentine explorer earns this odious honor. He kidnapped an Indian child in America in 1524 and tried also to abduct the mother [illegible]. She set up such outcries, however, that the crew fled back to their ship.
MORE FIRST FACTS
By J. N. Kane. An amazing compendium. Worthy successor to "Famous First Facts." 1800 items. 599 pages. 38 Illustrations. $3.75
THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY
950 University Avenue
New York

Yusef El-Amin

John Cole (left) and Gene DeAnna (right) thanked Joseph Nathan Kane for his gift.

Mr. Kane earned the sobriquet of "the man historians hate." Some examples that contradicted what was printed in history books include: "Samuel Pierpont Langley constructed and flew a heavier-than-air machine more than seven years before the Wrights at Kitty Hawk," and, "Samuel Wilson, a provisions inspector during the War of 1812, went by the nickname 'Uncle Sam,' and regularly stamped inspected packages with the initials 'U.S.' Hence the moniker was applied to the U.S. Government."

Who made the FIRST Derby?
James N. Knapp of South Norwalk, Connecticut, was the first person to manufacture the headpiece which has become famous in song and story. He sold a dozen and a half, brown and black, to a retail store on Broadway in 1850. An English clerk in the store suggested the name after the famous horse race.
MORE FIRST FACTS
An amazing compendium. Worthy successor to "Famous First Facts." 1800 items. 599 pages. 38 illustrations. $3.75 Postpaid. The H. W. Wilson Co., 950 University Ave., New York.

Mr. Kane recalled another pair of firsts that proved quite controversial. He said electric light was introduced 30 to 40 years before Thomas Edison by an inventor who died poor. He said the same was true for TV technology—30 to 40 years before its official invention date, someone had discovered it was possible to transmit moving pictures over the airwaves. He too died a penniless unknown, according to Mr. Kane.

Mr. Kane lives in Manhattan, not far from the WOR radio studio where his broadcasts were made. He described the variety show as an experiment to prove what radio technology could do. An audio slice of life of the 1930s, the recordings include live audiences who provided rousing laughter and clapping.

"This is a rich, rich multimedia collection," said John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, the host for the presentation. The event was jointly sponsored by NRS, MBRS and the Center for the Book. In addition to members of Mr. Kane's family, representatives of his publishing house, H.W. Wilson, attended the presentation.

Concluded Dr. Cole: "Joe Kane is a living treasure. He is a reference machine who has for years honored and contributed to the world of librarianship through his reference books." And now he has contributed to the American TV and Radio Archive through his archive of recordings. —*Yvonne French*

Yvonne French is a writer-editor for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

'New Growth' on View

An exhibition highlighting newly acquired materials from the Library's collections, "New Growth: Recent Acquisitions in Caricature, Cartoon and Illustration," is on view in the Oval Gallery of the Madison Building. Exhibition hours are Monday through Friday only, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., through Jan. 26.

Much More than Books:
Nontraditional Sources of Chilean Literature

by Georgette Magassy Dorn

The first written literary work about the "remote" nation of Chile came to the Library in 1815. It was part of Thomas Jefferson's library, purchased by the Library of Congress after the British burned the collections, then housed in the Capitol, during the War of 1812.

The volume was Alonso de Ercilla's *La Araucana*, an epic poem about the conquest of Chile by a Spanish poet and soldier, first published in 1569.

Historians have said that *La Araucana* fed the fires of the Chilean independence movement. According to Chilean critic René Jara, "The Indians against whom the Spaniards fought in the distant days of the conquest did not yield . . . their heroic struggle until the close of the 19th century. Ercilla put his name to the base of what could be called Latin America."

Epic and historical ballads became founding genres in Chilean literature. Starting with the first notable Chilean savant of the early independence period, Juan Egaña (1768–1836), and on to Andrés Bello (1781–1888)—a Venezuelan who claimed Chile as his adoptive country—to Alberto Blest Gana (1831–1920), and 20th century giants such as Joaquín Edwards Bello (1887–1968), Vicente Huidobro (1893–1948), Nicanor Parra (1915) and José Donoso (1924), the reader will find works by all the important Chilean authors in the Library's collections.

According to noted poet and literary critic Pedro Lastra of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, the Library's collection of Chilean literature is "well balanced and representative of all periods of Chilean letters." Mr. Lasta is a contributing editor of the Library's *Handbook of Latin American Studies*.

The "jewel" in the Chilean literary collection, however, is the unique Gabriela Mistral corpus. Mistral (1889–1957) was the first Latin American to receive a Nobel Prize for literature (1945). She was also a teacher and a renowned diplomat. In addition to books by and about the poet, the Manuscript Division houses her unpublished notebooks and correspondence, among these, letters from her lifelong friend Stefan Zweig, Eduardo Frei Montalva (later President of Chile) and Argentine writer Victoria Ocampo. In addition, the Hispanic Division recorded a reading by Mistral in 1950 for the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape, the only one extant, and in 1971 issued a recording of the 18 poems read by the poet, available on cassette in the Madison Building Sales Shop.

Chilean poet Pablo Neruda (1904–1973) is arguably the most quoted poet in the Spanish language. The Library has a complete collection of his works, more than 500 titles—by and about Neruda, the second Chilean to be awarded the Nobel Prize for literature (1971). During his only visit to the Library, in 1966, and his first visit to Washington since 1944, this writer recorded him reading portions of his epic poem *Alturas de Macchu Picchu* for the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division has a copy of Neruda's book *España en el corazón* (*Spain in the Heart*), published in 1938 by colleagues of the poet who were fighting alongside him in the Spanish Civil War.

Prints and Photographs Division

Pablo Neruda in 1966 came to the Library and recorded for the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape.

A nontraditional resource for the study of Luso-Hispanic and Caribbean literature, the Archive of

Hispanic Literature on Tape was begun by the Hispanic Division in 1942. When Mistral recorded for the archive she supported the fledgling program, saying that "this effort to liberate poetry from the limitations of the printed word must be comprehensively undertaken."

To date, 612 authors have been recorded, among them eight Nobel laureates. In addition to Mistral and Neruda, they are: Juan Ramón Jiménez, Miguel Angel Asturias, Gabriel García Márquez, Vicente Aleixandre, Camilo José Cela and Octavio Paz.

Today, 37 Chilean authors are represented in the archive. They were recorded in various and sometimes faraway places. A husband-and-wife team, Pablo and Winett de Rokha, became in 1944 the first Chileans to record for the archive at the Library of Congress.

In 1958 Francisco Aguilera, who was the Library's specialist in Hispanic culture, traveled to Santiago de Chile on a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation and recorded 11 writers. Julio Barrenechea, Angel Cruchaga Santa María, Diego Dublé Urrutia and Juvencio Valle read selections from their poetry. Eduardo Barrios, Marta Brunet, Joaquín Edwards Bello, José Santos González Vera, Manuel Rojas and Benjamin Subercaseaux recorded from their novels, and Hernán Díaz Arreta read essays.

In 1961 Aguilera, on another mission sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, recorded an extemporaneous discussion between two Chilean historians, Francisco Antonio Encina and Leopoldo Castedo.

The Library has recorded almost all of the major Chilean writers of the mid-century. José Donoso, who is Chile's most distinguished living novelist, was recorded reading from his work in 1976 and 1982. In 1987, while he was a resident scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center, this writer recorded Donoso in an interview. Isabel Alegría was recorded at a women writers conference in San José, Costa Rica, in 1984.

The other Chilean authors represented in the archive are: Fernando Alegría, Isabel Allende, Guillermo Blanco, Enrique Campos Menéndez, Humberto Casanueva, Ariel Dorfman, Jorge Edwards (recorded twice), Enrique Goméz Correa, Oscar Hahn, Manuel Eduardo Hübner, Pedro Lastra, Enrique Lihn, Juan Marín, Nicanor Parra, Gonzalo Rojas, Antonio Skármeta, Fausto Soto, Arturo Torres Ríoseco, Mercedes Valdivieso, Juvencio Valle and Raúl Zurita.

More than half the authors in the archive were recorded at the Library. The recordings are accompanied by notebooks containing transcriptions of interviews and texts of the selections read. Patrons may listen to the recordings in the Hispanic Division.

The Library also has numerous nonmusical and musical recordings from Chile in the Recorded Sound Reading Room.

Georgette Dorn is chief of the Hispanic Division.

Among the World's Best:

Chilean Collections Encompass Many Disciplines

In an Aug. 20 *New York Times* article, "A Global Gauge of Greased Palms," Chile was ranked as the least "corrupt" Latin American country. In addition, a *Wall Street Journal* article on Aug. 18 stated that "the world is beating a path to Chile's door for good reason. . . . It privatized social security in 1981."

Jorge Edwards, prize-winning Chilean novelist and diplomat, addressed the Library.

Chile has been a laboratory for constructive political and economic experiments throughout most of its history. Practically alone among Latin American countries, it has witnessed only one major interruption in democratic government in the 170 years since national consolidation: the Pinochet dictatorship of 1973–1989. In 1990 the military government shifted effortlessly to the democratically elected President Patricio Aylwin.

Because of its success, Chile's experiment in political and economic development is studied by other countries in the process of redemocratization. According to economist Markos Mamalakis of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and contributing editor to the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, "Since 1985 Chile has achieved an average of 5.6 percent real annual growth in its gross domestic product. . . . In 1992 its rate of inflation had fallen below 20 percent . . . [and] its foreign debt is one of the lowest in Latin America."

Owing to a great extent to Chile's relatively peaceful political development, the country has produced

Clearing Up A Backlog

The Hispanic Division completed its arrearage (backlog) reduction and also the Hispanic government serials arrearage of the Serial and Government Publications Division. By the end of September the Photoduplication Service and the Preservation Microfilm Office completed and Hispanic Division Senior Bibliographer Reynaldo Aguirre reviewed the Hispanic Pamphlets II, the Puerto Rican Memorial and the Dobles Segreda collections. All but Dobles Segreda will be available for purchase by the end of 1995. Everette Larson completed reviewing and sent for filming a rare collection of pamphlets from the Panama Canal Zone Library.

Specialist in Mexican Culture Barbara Tenenbaum led a team composed of Junior Fellow Kaydee McCann, bibliographer Tracy North, AT&T Fellow Ana Maria Villamarín, also assisted by Senior Bibliographer Juan Manuel Perez and AT&T Fellow Camelia Picó, all of whom during the "final push" last last summer completed work on the Hispanic serial arrearage. Approximately 200,000 pieces have been evaluated and 106,000 deselected (53 percent). The team set aside 900 items for microfilming.

Jim Higgins

The Hispanic Division's serials arrearage team (from left): Camelia Picó, Katherine McCann, Ana Maria Villamarín, Tracy North and Barbara Tenenbaum, the division's specialist in Mexican culture

solid research in most fields, as well as two Nobel laureates in literature. In the Library of Congress the researcher will find a remarkable collection on Chile.

According to William Sater, a U.S. historian of Chile who is a professor at California State University at Long Beach, "The Library of Congress has "one of the world's finest collections on Chile."

Mr. Sater, author of *Chile and the War of the Pacific* (1986), is also a contributing editor to the *Handbook of Latin American Studies* and has been reviewing materials on Chilean history since 1987.

History. The first books about Chile—more than a dozen early chronicles—came to the Library with the Thomas Jefferson collection in 1815. An Italian translation of Juan Ignacio Molina, *Compendio della storia geografica, naturale e civile del Regno del Chile* (*Compendium of the Geographic, Natural and Political History of the Kingdom of Chile*) (Bologna: 1776), was given to Jefferson by prominent Spanish American revolutionary Francisco Miranda.

In a letter to Charles Willson Peale dated Jan. 15, 1809, Jefferson wrote referring to the Molina work, "I have lately seen Molina's account of Chili in which, correcting Buffon's classification of the wooly animals, he speaks of one, the Chilihueco, or Chili sheep, which may possibly be the same with the fleecy goat of Gov. Lewis."

Other books that came with the Jefferson collection include the 1569 versified narrative of the conquest of Chile, *La Araucana* (*The Araucanian Epic*) (Madrid: 1776), by Spanish soldier and journalist Alonso Ercilla y Zuñiga. Another of Jefferson's volumes was Alonzo de Ovalle's *Historia del Regno di Cile* (Rome: 1646). Other rare treasures in the Jefferson corpus that reflected the Sage of Monticello's keen interest in the Americas are *Relación histórica del viaje a la América meridional* (*History of the Trip to Southern America*) by Jorge Juan and Antonio de Ulloa (Madrid: 1748); *Histoire des navigations aux Terres Australes* (*History of the Voyage to Australian Lands*) by Charles de Brosses (Paris: 1756); *Nouveau voyage autour du Monde . . . les côtes meridionales de Chili . . .* (*New Voyage Around the World Along the Southern Coast of Chile*) by Guillaume Dampier (Paris: 1701–1705); *Description des Terres Magellaniques et des pays adjacens* (*Description of the Lands of Magellan and the Nearby Countries*) by Thomas Faulkner (Paris: 1787) and *Relation du*

Division Hosts Interns from World Over

Jim Higgins

The Hispanic Division staff bids farewell to its 1995 summer interns (from left, front row): Selene Quiroga; Sandra Quintanilla, clerk-typist; Ana Kurland, program assistant; Ana Maria Villamarín; Katherine McCann; Monique Long; and Amy Puryear, editorial assistant; (second row): Ann Mulrane, editorial assistant, Iêda Siqueira Wiarda, Luso-Brazilian specialist; Tracy North, assistant editor; Camelia Picó; Barbara Tenenbaum, Mexican culture specialist; Everette Larson, Hispanic Division reading room head; and Randy Wells; (back row): Sue Mundell, assistant editor; and Georgette Dorn, division chief.

Last summer the Hispanic Division again hosted a multicultural group of fellows and interns who worked on arrearage reduction and on the production of bibliographies.

In Spanish, Portuguese and English several young people from different parts of the world gained insight into the workings of the world's largest research library.

☐ Junior Fellow Katherine McCann is a graduate student at the Library School of the University of Texas at Austin, and also has a master's degree from UCLA in Latin American Studies. She worked on the Hispanic serial arrearage.

☐ AT&T Fellow Camelia Picó, a May graduate of Johns Hopkins University, assisted with the Latin American Research Materials Demonstration Project (preparing government documents from microfilming) and with serials arrearages.

☐ AT&T Fellow Ana Maria Villamarín graduated from Williams College in May. She worked with serials arrearages and also with the Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape.

☐ Monique Long, a graduate of Howard University, worked with Iêda Siqueira Wiarda on the *Handbook of Portuguese Studies* (to be published in 1996) and assisted Assistant Chief John Hébert in finding pictures for a guide to the Hispanic Collections.

☐ Gary Merson, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, worked with Dr. Wiarda's *Portuguese Handbook* and with John Hébert's pictorial project.

☐ Argentine librarian María Tissera from the University of Córdoba, Argentina, assisted Everette Larson, head of the Hispanic Reading Room, preparing bibliographies.

☐ Elizabeth Canales, a work-study employee who graduated from St. John's College High School, worked on the *Handbook of Latin American Studies.*

voyage de la Mer du Sud aux côtes du Chile et du Pérou fait pendant 1712, 1713 et 1714 (*Account of the Trip to the South Seas Along the Coast of Chile and Peru Undertaken During 1712, 1713 and 1714*) by Amédée Francois Frezier (Paris: 1732).

The large and varied history collection is impressive because Chile, since its independence, has nurtured a long succession of distinguished historians and social commentators. The Library has all relevant works by notable Chilean historians such as Diego Barros Arana, Ricardo Donoso, Guillermo Feliú Cruz, Eugenio Pereira Salas, Benjamín Vicuña MacKenna, José Lastarria and Sergio Villalobos and historians from elsewhere such as Claude Gay, Simon Collier, William Sater and Frederick Pike.

Politics and Government. Chilean politics in the 20th century attracts a wide spectrum of scholars, policy analysts, experts in finance and journalists. Because Chilean formal democracy departed somewhat from the pattern of *caudillism* and militarism so common in Latin

Americas Award Given During LC Ceremony

Trinidadian-born writer Lynn Joseph received the Americas Award for Children and Young Adults at the Library of Congress during an event hosted by the Hispanic Division and the Center for the Book on June 16.

Ms. Joseph received the award from Julie Klein of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who chaired the book prize committee. The novelist then read from her award-winning book, *The Mermaid's Twin* (Orion Books, 1994) and answered questions from the audience. The reading was followed by a reception. In addition to Ms. Kelin, members of the Americas Award committee present at the event were: Graciela Italiano, Weber State University, Utah; Christi Rentch de Moraga, Farmington (Conn.) Public Schools; and Linda Miller, Queens College, N.C.

Lynn Joseph recorded an interview and a reading for the Archive of Literature on Tape and later that day she received the Americas Award. Born and raised in Trinidad, Ms. Joseph moved to the United States, received a law degree from Fordham University and is a practicing attorney in New York.

Inspired by stories she heard while growing up in Trinidad, Ms. Joseph's other books are *An Island Christmas* (1992), *Coconut Kind of Day* (1992) and *Island Poems (1990)* and *A Wave in Her Pocket: Stories from Trinidad* (1991).

Jim Higgins

At the Americas Award presentation were (from left): Reynaldo Aguirre, senior bibliographer; Sybille Jagusch, chief of the Children's Literature Center; John Cole, director of the Center for the Book; Graciela Italiano of the Americas Award Committee; award recipient Lynn Joseph; Georgette Dorn, Hispanic Division chief; and Julie Klein, Americas Award chair.

America, much of the country's literature on politics focuses on constitutional history and party structure.

The various periods in Chilean politics are amply represented by thousands of titles in the general, microfilm and pamphlet collections of the Library. Invaluable primary source materials can be found in the reports of the *ministerios* (Cabinets), the congressional record or debates for both chambers—which the Library has from the beginning of the Chilean Congress in 1810, codes of law, statutes, the official *gaceta*, jurisprudence and constitutional history.

Of interest to scholars are publications of the Tribunal Constitucional, whose practices are widely imitated by countries in the process of redemocratization. The Library possesses published memoirs by presidents and a great many monographic studies about Chilean chief executives, such as Paul Sigmund's *The Overthrow of Allende and the Politics of Chile* (1977). President Eduardo Frei Montalva (father of the current President Frei) is represented by 49 titles, while there are 69 works by or about former President Augusto Pinochet. The Library's collections are especially strong in materials about political parties and movements, class conflict and the military.

According to Everette Larson, head of the Hispanic Reading Room, "We see a steadily increasing demand for materials on the Chilean economy." Chile may well be the next nation to sign on to the North American Free Trade Agreement. Chile will also be one of the key countries in the fledgling MERCOSUR trading bloc.

The Library houses numerous books and articles on Chile's economic development, agriculture, agrarian reform, rural life, industry and commerce. Authoritative works are Markos Mamalakis's *The Growth and Structure of the Chilean Economy, from Independence to Allende* (1976),

Development and Social Change in the Chilean Countryside (1992), *El campesinado chileno, sus organizaciones productivas* (*Chilean Peasants and Their Organizations for Production*) (1988), Archibald Ritter's *Development Strategy and Structural Adjustment in Chile: From the Unidad Popular to the Concertacion 1970–1992* (1992) and *Chile's Labor Markets in an Era of Adjustment* (1990).

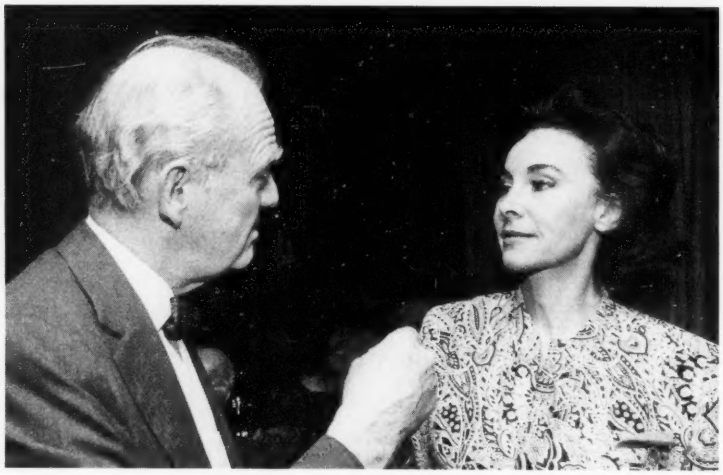
Archaeology, Anthropology and Ethnography. In these fields the Library has worked closely with specialists from the Smithsonian Institution to develop its collections. Betty Meggers, for example, also serves as a contributing editor to the *Handbook*.

Paleo-Indian and archaic phases of Chilean cultures, covering the arid and semiarid north, the central valley and the semiarid south are well represented at the Library. Monographs and periodical articles in these vast fields range from the archaeologists' concerns with lithic habitats to anthropologists' and ethnologists' interest in with contemporary indigenous groups.

According to Terry Peet, head of the Hispanic Acquisitions Section of the Exchange and Gift Division, the Library received 106,232 publications relating to Chile during 1975–1994. Mr. Peet said that "beginning in 1985 a special and vastly expanded exchange with the Biblioteca Nacional de Chile went into effect, dramatically increasing receipts of both monographs and serials."

Special Collections. In the Microform Reading Room noteworthy items include a corpus of early 20th century Chilean theater and an archives, Chilean Song 1960–1976. The Library also recently microfilmed two archives of Hispanic and Iberian pamphlets, which will be available by the end of the year.

Geography and Map Division. Maps of Chile number almost 3,000 sheets. The Library has "an impressive cartographic collection for Chile, especially in maps produced by the U.S. [Defense Mapping Agency]," which are not "readily available" elsewhere, said Sergio Vergara of the Universidad de Chile, who did research at the Library last summer.



Former division chief Cole Blasier with Chilean American novelist Elena Castedo, who visited the Library in 1991

Ronald Grim, a specialist in cartographic history, reports that the cartographic collection contains country, subject, province, city and *municipio*, or town, maps. Of special interest are maps and atlases from Chile's boundary disputes with Argentina.

Manuscripts. Holdings are of special interest to the diplomatic historian. The Manuscript Division houses papers of 19th century ship captains, merchants and diplomats who traveled to Chile and other parts of South America. The most recent manuscript acquisition regarding Chile is the papers of Ambassador Harry Barnes (1978–1988).

Perhaps the most notable Chilean manuscript holdings are the papers of writer Gabriela Mistral, containing letters from prominent figures and unpublished poetry and diplomatic correspondence.

These are only a fraction of the books and nonbook materials in the Library's collections. A good place to start research is in the Hispanic Reading Room, where an orientation and reference assistance are available.

–Georgette Magassy Dorn

Georgette Dorn is chief of the Hispanic Division.

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Information Bulletin 84LC01

What's True and What's Apocryphal:
Keynote Speaker Sets Record Straight on José Martí

A Georgetown University professor emeritus delivered the Hispanic Heritage Month keynote at the Library to "separate the true José Martí from the apocryphal."

José M. Hernández spoke Oct. 3 in the Mumford Room, where he was welcomed by Barbara A. Tenenbaum, the Mexican culture specialist in the Hispanic Division.

Deputy Librarian Hiram L. Davis introduced Dr. Hernández, whose speech, "Martí and Democracy: A Factual Approach," sought to clarify whether Martí was a democrat or dictator.

Dr. Hernández reminded the audience that the Spanish-speaking world this year celebrated the centennial of the death of José Martí, who was killed in one of the first battles of the 1895–1898 Cuban war against Spanish domination.

"Martí, once [Cuba's] foremost hero and its most eminent thinker and man of letters" had fomented the war by reviving the Cuban separatist movement from the United States, where he spent the last 15 years of his life.

Scholars who attempt to define Martí by analyzing his prolific though often ambiguous and contradictory writings frequently fail, according to the speaker. "A Spanish politician once observed that one of Martí's best-known political documents, the *Montecristi Manifesto*, rather than [being] a rebellion against the Spanish government was a rebellion against Spanish syntax," Dr. Hernández said.

Dr. Hernández summed up what other scholars who focused on Martí's writings have said and concluded that a better approach is to analyze the leader's actions. He focused on Martí's steps in organizing the Cuban Revolutionary Party, which formed the platform that launched the war that took his life.

The Cuban independence movement was already 26 years old when Martí died. The Cubans, led by Creole sugar planters and cattle barons of the eastern part of the island, had fought the Spaniards in the Ten Years' War in 1868–78 and never accepted defeat. The leadership of the landed peoples was then replaced by that of separatist generals—former civilians who had moved up the ranks during the war. These generals had "taken to the woods" after the war, but as they made plans, their followers began to lose hope.

Jim Higgins

José Hernández: Martí "was not Machiavellian. . . . His relationship with his followers was not based on power but on understanding."

Meanwhile, Martí established himself as a separatist leader in New York and gained the support of Cuban workers there and in Key West and Tampa, Fla.

Martí's political actions in setting up the separatist party prove that the leader was a "steadfast democrat," Dr. Hernández said. The party was formed of revolutionary clubs in Jamaica, Boston, New Orleans and Philadelphia in addition to Florida and New York.

The leader, or delegate, of the party was elected annually, but could be removed in a process set in motion by a majority vote by any club. The party bylaws, or *Bases*, could also be changed that way.

The party was officially organized at a meeting in Key West on Jan. 5, 1892. "According to the minutes, all that Martí did as president of the assembly was to read 'slowly and clearly' the *Bases* of the new organization. . . . It was agreed that they would be subsequently submitted to the various clubs for a sort of final approval." The clubs were thus the backbone of the party, Dr. Hernández said.

Additionally, Martí one month earlier had begun publishing a newspaper, *Patria*, which became the official party organ. When an objector said Martí had set up the bylaws to sanction a dictatorship, the clubs voted to declare the man, also a newspaper publisher, *persona non grata* and their members quit reading his paper.

Finally, Martí flouted the tradition of the Cuban revolutionary movement and left military leaders out of the plans until they were voted upon by veterans of the Ten Years' War assembled by presidents of the clubs.

"He was not a leader of the Machiavellian type, the sort of leader who basically depends on force and cunning. His relationship with his followers was not based on power but on understanding and persuasion,

(Cont. on p. 472)

Handbook of Latin American Studies Now Available on CD-ROM

The Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress has released the *Handbook of Latin American Studies CD-ROM: HLAS/CD, Vols. 1-53,* containing nearly 250,000 records on a single compact disk. This CD-ROM is the result of a collaborative agreement signed in November 1994 by representatives of the Library of Congress, the Fundacion MAPFRE America (Madrid) and the University of Texas Press, publisher of the print edition of the *Handbook.* Additional financial support was provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

During the past 50 years, the print edition of the *Handbook of Latin American Studies* has been prepared by hundreds of scholars for the Hispanic Division. This annual, selective and annotated bibliography has gained a reputation as an indispensable tool for conducting research on Latin America.

The long-awaited *HLAS/CD* is an extremely powerful bibliographic source for Latin Americanist scholars of the humanities and the social sciences. Like the print volumes, the CD-ROM will include annotated bibliographic citations, as well as introductory essays highlighting important trends and research developments. The CD-ROM features context-sensitive assistance in both English and Spanish, as well as two user levels, novice and expert. Searches may be conducted by any combination of fields (author, title, description, annotation, subject, volume, item number, year) and may also be restricted to type of record (bibliographic citation, introductory essay or both). The *HLAS/CD* interface uses the BRS Search engine, which allows users to select from eight Boolean and proximity operators. Search results may be saved or printed for later use.

The retrospective version was produced by Fundacion MAPFRE America's Digital Publications Division, DIGIMAP. The volumes were processed in three stages. For the first 43 volumes, the project involved electronically scanning the corresponding print volumes of the *Handbook,* passing the results through optical character recognition programs, proofreading each volume's data, tagging the resulting data with field designators and submitting each file to a quality control test. For volumes 44-49, the data were extracted from the typesetting tapes, thus eliminating the scanning and proofreading stages; likewise for volumes 50-53, for which the data were extracted from the *Handbook's* on-line working file at the Library of Congress.

The *HLAS/CD* was demonstrated in Washington, D.C., at the annual Latin American Studies Association conference, Sept. 28-30. The minimum requirements for using the *HLAS/CD* are a 486 personal computer with 4 MB of RAM (8 MB recommended), DOS 5.0 or higher, Windows 3.1 or higher, a hard disk with at least 1 MB of available memory and a CD-ROM drive. The *HLAS/CD* may be purchased for $150 from the University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713; telephone (512) 471-7233; fax (512) 320-0668.

Martí *(Cont. from p. 471)*

and a leader of this type can only emerge, grow and mature in a democratic environment, in an atmosphere where the word has precedence over the sword, and force is an argument of last resort," concluded Dr. Hernández.

After the lecture a guitarist and mandolin player performed Martí's song "Guantanamera," or "Lady of Guantanamo" as the audience sang along in Spanish by reading from cards provided for the occasion.

—Yvonne French

Yvonne French is a writer-editor for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Preservation Workshop Open to Public

The Library will mark National Library Week with a Preservation Awareness Workshop on April 16, 1996. This event, co-sponsored by the Library's Center for the Book and the Preservation Directorate, will be free and open to the public. It will take place in the Mumford Room, sixth floor of the Madison Building, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The mission of the Library's Preservation Directorate is to preserve the more than 108 million items in the collections for future generations. Founded in 1972, the preservation program has trained innumerable distinguished scientists, conservators and other experts in the preservation field; the program is also open to interns from all over the world, who learn while working on the Library's unique collections. Many of the methods developed at the Library have become standard procedures in libraries and archives worldwide.

During this special National Library Week event, the Library of Congress is inviting the members of the public to come and learn about preserving their family treasures. Several companies that manufacture and distribute conservation products will also participate in the workshop, distributing instructive information about preservation and conservation issues, as well as samples such as acid-free papers, cotton gloves and pH pens to workshop participants.

Where East Meets West:
Ethnic Minorities Speak Out

To the question "Why ethnic parties?" in a former Soviet region, Jan Sienkiewicz, the leader of the ethnic minority party Electoral Action of Lithuanian Poles, answered that democratic reform did not usher in the promised land of tolerance.

The mentality has not changed. Even his own party was hastily formed only after the Lithuanian parliament passed legislation excluding nongovernmental entities—including ethnic organizations—from participating in elections. The reason for the party's extraordinary showing in the March 25, 1995, elections was that it garnered support from the other minorities disaffected with ethnic favoritism.

A member of the Vilnius city council and editor of the monthly cultural *Magazyn Wilenski*, Mr. Sienkiewicz proudly noted that, while the elections brought a decisive defeat to the ruling Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party, in the ethnically diverse Vilnius region in which Poles constitute a 64 percent majority, the postcommunists won not a single seat. However, the success may be illusory because administrative reform by parliament stripped localities of any real authority.

In his Oct. 10 LC Professional Association Polish Language Table talk, "Why Ethnic Parties? The Political Power of Ethnic Minorities in Central Europe," Mr. Sienkiewicz used the autochthonous population of the former Polish *Kresy* (Borderland) region as an example of why ethnic tensions are on the rise in the relatively progressive post-Soviet states. Mr. Sienkiewicz attributed postcommunist ethnic conflicts to the "divide and conquer" policies of the Soviet regime. At the end of World War II, the Russian newcomers were the instrument of denationalization in Latvia and Estonia, Mr. Sienkiewicz said.

"Moscow's dirty tricks," he said, were responsible for its tolerance of a Polish presence in Lithuania, which weakened Lithuanian national identity and allowed the Soviet Union to tighten its grip on the former republic.

The collapse of the "nation of nations" gave rise to ethnocracies set on curtailing local power and regional autonomy, particularly in

Jan Sienkiewicz

ethnic minority regions. The political pendulum in Central Europe swings from right to left but intolerance and discrimination persist, Mr. Sienkiewicz argued. "If the nationalist government of Lithuania headed by Vytautas Landsbergis was at times openly exclusive, at least you knew where you stood."

The postcommunists led by current leader Algirdas Brazauskas follow the old Soviet line: "We don't have an ethnic problem, therefore, we don't have an ethnic problem," said Mr. Sienkiewicz.

Despite the official party line, Mr. Sienkiewicz noted several cases of ethnic discrimination. For example, he is legally obliged to spell his name according rules of Lithuanian orthography as Senkevic; reprivatization of land in the Vilnius region in which Poles are a majority is the lowest in the country (only about 6 percent as opposed to 30 to 35 percent elsewhere), with choice properties parceled out to Lithuanian newcomers resettled from other regions; and ethnic minorities are still widely treated as foreigners by the media and decision-makers.

"In Vilnius cemeteries, trees tend to drop on gravestones with Polish inscriptions," Mr. Sienkiewicz mused, "and few want to remember the mass massacres of the Holocaust by special Lithuanian units and why there are virtually no Jews left in the country. While Mr. Sienkiewicz does not believe that regional autonomy is the answer to ethnic friction, he sees the centralization of power as fundamentally undemocratic.

According to Mr. Sienkiewicz, societies that have emerged from the former Soviet region, perhaps because they have been "hermetically sealed" for so long, seem unwilling to normalize minority relations. They want "to enjoy all the advantages of belonging to international institutions such as the United Nations . . . but [be able to] keep policies and practices in clear contradiction to the norms and laws generally accepted by the international community they wish to join."

The leaders believe that decentralization will dilute their power; thus they prefer politics as usual. "Coming to grips with totalitarianism within is more difficult than opposing totalitarianism imposed from without. Old habits, decaying ideologies take years to defeat."

—*Michael Szporer*

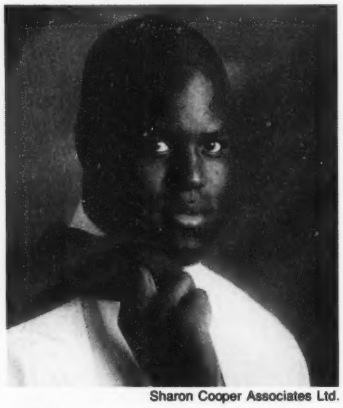
Michael Szporer is on the staff of the Copyright Office. Dr. Szporer was the first Fulbright fellow to the Republic of Lithuania when it declared independence from the Soviet Union in 1990.

News from the Center for the Book:

Rocky Mountain Book Festival Attracts 40,000

What brought approximately 40,000 people to the third annual Rocky Mountain Book Festival at Denver's convention center on Oct. 13–14?

The answers include: Denver



Sharon Cooper Associates Ltd.

Colorado Center for the Book spokesman Reggie Rivers, who also plays for the Denver Broncos

Bronco Reggie Rivers, the honorary festival chairman and speaker; a Brain Quest Challenge for 7,500 schoolchildren from 30 Denver-area schools; cooking demonstrations; talks, readings and panel presentations by more than 20 authors, including Tony Hillerman, Barbara Kingsolver, Linda Hogan, Robert Massie, Ian Frazier, Peggy Orenstein, Jack Gantos, Clarissa Pinkola Estes, John Dunning and Russell Means; book arts demonstrations; a Literary Chautauqua Tent, where, through separate one-hour presentations, visitors could listen to and question impersonators of Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Anne Sexton, Geoffrey Chaucer, Jack London or a pensive and troubled F. Scott Fitzgerald.

There were also poetry and prose readings from the winners of the 1995 Colorado Book Awards and the 1995 Western States Book Awards; a celebrity book auction; continuous storytelling, music and puppetry on a children's stage; book sales and autographing sessions; a "bibliotherapy" booth; and 102 scheduled programs and panel discussions, ranging from "What Is This Thing Called Love? An Overview of the Romance Genre," one of 10 presentations at 9 a.m. on Oct. 13, to "The Role of the Editor," one of two concluding programs at 4 p.m. on Oct. 14.

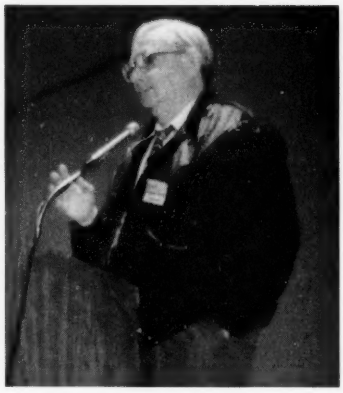
"We were thrilled by the turnout and by the enthusiasm of participants, festival-goers, exhibitors and our many volunteers," said Kimberly Taylor, executive director of the Colorado Center for the Book, the festival's principal sponsor. "And we are especially grateful to our major cooperating sponsors: *Rocky Mountain News,* the Colorado State Library, NEWS 4 Colorado, *The Bloomsbury Review,* HarperCollins Publishers, the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, Microsoft and the Ingram Book Co."

In addition to cooperating sponsors and publishers, the festival's 71 exhibitors included the Tattered Cover Book Store, many writers groups and the newly established Wyoming Center for the Book. With *The Bloomsbury Review,* the Wyoming center promoted the panel discussion, "Wyoming Literature, Past and Present," which featured six members of Wyoming Writers Inc.

Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole participated in the panel discussion on "Funding for Literature" and introduced speakers Tony Hillerman and Robert Massie, who have appeared previously at Center for the Book programs in Washington, D.C.

An updated edition of *The Colorado Book Guide: A Directory of the Colorado Book Community* was released during the festival. The 140-page book, a directory of resources for people who work with books, includes brief listings for agents, book arts organizations, book fairs and festivals, bookbinders, bookstores, distributors, libraries, literacy programs and coalitions, newspapers, publishers, writing and book associations and book-related service organizations. Copies are available for $9.95 from *The Bloomsbury Review,* 1762 Emerson St., Denver, CO 80218–1012; telephone (303) 863–0406.

Also during the festival, the Colorado Center for the Book raised funds for its purchase of the Denver home of Thomas Hornsby Ferril (1896–1988), the poet laureate of Colorado, which will become a lit-



Colorado writer Tony Hillerman

erary center and the center's new home. The Fourth Annual Rocky Mountain Book Festival will be held Oct. 5 and 6, 1996, and beginning in 1997, the center will sponsor a Rocky Mountain Children's Book Festival. For information about the center and its activities, write or call the Colorado Center for the Book, 1301

Arapahoe St., Suite 3, Golden, CO 80401; (303) 273–5933.

☐ **Cultural Forum of the States Meets at LC.** On Oct. 16 the Center for the Book hosted the semiannual meeting of the Cultural Forum of the States, an informal alliance of state cultural officers that is committed "to making known to state and national leaders the breadth, depth and diversity of cultural activity in the states" and "to increasing the responsiveness of state governments to the cultural needs of all citizens."

Representatives from 10 states and several federal cultural agencies participated in the all-day program, which focused on "The Role of Culture in the Economic Environment," particularly the relationship between culture and tourism.

The luncheon speaker, Terry Smith Labat of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administation, pointed out ties among tourism, economic development and the arts, and noted that "too often culture's contribution to tourism is not appreciated." She also discussed the forthcoming White House Conference on Travel and Tourism and the possible significance of the conference for tourism policy at both the federal and the state levels.

Other discussion topics included: long-range cultural planning in several states; book fairs and festivals as cultural and economic attractions; North Carolina's "Handmade in USA" campaign and Iowa's Governor's Cultural Coalition.

Also under discussion were: the benefits and drawbacks of legalized gambling on cultural promotion; advocacy strategies and their importance in view of funding cuts; the increasing popularity of established "heritage areas"; partnerships with performing arts agencies; the concept of strategic place marketing in assessing cultural assets; the promotion of "authentic industries" and historic sites; using new technologies to promote cultural activities; and the need to publicize the notion that cultural agencies "deliver" the products that tourist offices promote.

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Dr. Cole briefly discussed cultural projects that linked the Library of Congress to the various states, particularly programs of the American Folklife Center and those of the Center for the Book, which has 30 affiliated state centers. He described the Montana Heritage project and state center projects such as Florida's literary map and its program of commemorating Florida literary landmarks.

This meeting of the Cultural Forum of the States was convened by William H. Drennen Jr., director of the West Virginia Department of Culture and History, and William H. Jackson, director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. A third organizer, Van McLeod, commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Affairs, was unable to attend.

Other participants in the meeting were: Alicia Adams, the Kennedy Center; Jody Albright, Office of Special Projects, Maryland; Johanna Misey Boyer, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies; Betsy Buford, Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina; and Cynthia Brower, Office of Special Projects, Maryland.

Kathryn Murphy Burke, Wisconsin Arts Board; Miriam Crawford,

COLORADO CENTER FOR THE BOOK

Community Relations, Corporation for Public Broadcasting; Louis DeLuca, Kentucky Arts Council; Shelly Feist, the Kennedy Center; Diane Frankel, Institute of Museum Services; Greg Franklin, Department of Cultural Affairs, New Hampshire; Jonathan Katz, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies; and Dean Kenderdine, Department of Business and Economic Development, Maryland.

Bev Lindsey, Department of Heritage, Arkansas; Betty Ray McCain, Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina; Nancy Miller, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Agencies; Karyl Denison Robb, Cultural Resources, Wyoming; and Barbara Fulton Russon, New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

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